

City of Santa Barbara
COVID-19 Business Advisory Task Force
June 5, 2020 Meeting Summary

- A majority of the Business Advisory Task Force members were able to join and participate in the meeting with City staff.
- Mayor Murillo opened the meeting and referenced peaceful protests and marches held locally, and the success of the outdoor dining initiative.
- Nancy Anderson with the County provided an overview of the County's efforts to assist businesses and allow outdoor dining in unincorporated areas. Nancy reiterated the County's continued effort to track the Governor's State Public Health Orders, and detailed the County's ongoing preparations to rapidly update their health orders in response to State changes.
- City Administrator Paul Casey reviewed the timeline of efforts for the State St. closure, staff efforts to assist with and monitor changes, and the overall support and positive feedback he has received. Mr. Casey also highlighted the ongoing relaxation of the State's restrictions on business types, and said he expects additional business sectors will be cleared to reopen soon.
- Jason Harris with the City gave an overview of the City's efforts to give direction on setting up and operating outdoor dining areas. He noted relevant information on the City webpage, outlined the City's coordination efforts with ABC Licensing, and touched upon the State St. closure. Mr. Harris also referenced the June 2nd Council meeting at which Council discussed the Task Force's recommendations, then directed staff to evaluate the recommendations and return with a review of process improvement recommendations and the feasibility of forming a committee to oversee the adoption and further evaluation of recommended improvements.
- The group engaged in a general conversation regarding the frequency of future Task Force meetings to gauge interest in ending the Task Force's meetings. There was consensus that the group should continue to meet and share information every other Friday. It was noted that one of the future meetings landed on July 3.